

REMARKS

Several references were recently cited in a foreign patent application related to the instant U.S. patent application. The Applicants have filed a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) with an Information Disclosure Statement and Form PTO-1449 to bring these references to the attention of the U.S. Patent Examiner. The Applicants also submit the above claim amendments and additions to clarify that small amounts of impurities may be present in the claimed alloy.


The added claims are supported in the application as-filed. The disclosure references the alloy having the normal level of impurities that results from the alloy forming process. See, for example, page 7, which discloses having amounts of Cr and Ni at the impurity level, page 9, which discloses having amounts of O and Si at the impurity level, and original claim 1. Thus, no new matter is added.

This supplemental amendment is filed to correct an obvious error in the previously submitted version of claim 34. No new matter is added by this correction.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any insufficiency or credit any overpayment associated with this application to Swidler Berlin LLP Deposit Account No. 19-5127 (order no. 19378.0011).

The Applicants respectfully request entry of the above amendments and new claims, and issuance of a Notice of Allowance for all claims. Should the Examiner feel further communication would help prosecution, the Examiner is urged to call the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sean P. O'Hanlon", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Dated: January 18, 2005

Sean P. O'Hanlon
Reg. No. 47,252

Swidler Berlin LLP
3000 K Street, NW, Suite 300
Washington, DC 20007
(202) 295-8429